

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application. In an Office Action dated 12 January 2006, claims 1, 3-28, 30-32, and 35 are rejected on prior art grounds; claims 2, 29, 33, and 34 are objected to as depending from a rejected claim but are indicated as being allowable if amended to include all of the provisions of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

In reply to the Office Action, Applicant herein amends claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 29. Claim 29 is correspondingly cancelled. Thus, claim 1 is rendered novel and non-obvious over the cited references; withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested. Claim 1 is not further objected or rejected and is thus allowable to Applicant.

Claims 2-28 and 30-31 variously depend from allowable claim 1 and are correspondingly allowable. Claims 32-34 are herein cancelled. Claim 35 incorporates all of the provisions of allowable claim 1 and is thus correspondingly allowable.

Accordingly, claims 1-28, 30-31, and 35 remain and are now allowable to Applicant; withdrawal of all rejections and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

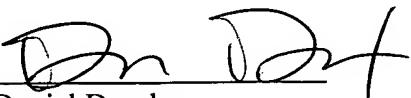
Applicant hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §§1.136, 1.137 for any extension of time necessary for entry and consideration of the present Response.

If there are any charges with respect to this amendment, or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorneys at the below telephone number regarding this Response or otherwise concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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